



BOROUGH OF WIDNES

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for

1968

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ANNUAL REPORT
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To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present, for your consideration, my report on the health of Widnes for the year 1968, together with the relative vital statistics.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for 1968 shows a decline of 940 over his estimate for the previous year. The decrease must be a readjustment resulting from closer scrutiny of data on which his estimate is based. This phenomenon is otherwise difficult to explain when all the visible signs such as those relating to births and deaths, occupied dwellings, etc., point to a population increase during the year. In view of this, any comparison between birth and death rates for 1968 and 1967 could be misleading. So far as actual numbers are concerned, these were extremely close, there being four fewer deaths and five fewer births in 1968.

Probably the most pleasing aspect of the 1968 statistics is the comparatively very low infant death rate of 13.9 per 1,000 live births compared with the previous lowest of 20.1 for 1965 and 20.4 for 1967. The 1968 rate for England and Wales was 18.3. The stillbirth rate of 20.9 per 1,000 total live and stillbirths was also lower than for the previous year.

I am particularly happy to report that there were, once again, no maternal deaths recorded during the year.

A new statistical classification of diseases, injuries and causes of death, the eighth revision, adopted by the Nineteenth World Health Assembly in 1966, has been brought into use in relation to records and statistics for 1968 and on. The new classification differs from the old in a number of ways as will be noted by comparison of the information shown on pages 5 and 6 of this report with that for recent years. There has, for example, been a rearrangement of the section dealing with circulatory diseases which now includes vascular lesions affecting the C.N.S. Deaths belonging to Widnes due to causes classified under this heading occurring in 1968 accounted for 48% of the total. Other principal causes of death during the year were: diseases of the respiratory system (other than cancer) 18%, malignant neoplasms 19%. There were 18 accidental deaths compares with 17 in 1967 but as the average for the previous 10 years was 23 deaths we can feel reasonably satisfied with the trend.

During 1968 there were also new regulations brought into effect with regard to the notification and prevention of infectious diseases. As a result acute pneumonia, puerperal pyrexia and erysipelas are now excluded from notification and yellow fever, leptospirosis and tetanus become notifiable for the first time. There was a further reduction in the total number of infectious diseases notified in the Borough during the year although the incidence of measles remained fairly high for most of the period. There was a slight increase in notifications of tuberculosis but there were no deaths from the disease. There were in fact, for the first time on record, no deaths resulting from notifiable infectious disease. One effect of the reducing incidence of infectious disease is that less time is spent by public health inspectors on inquiries.

Nevertheless, from time to time, swift action and thorough investigation becomes necessary to prevent the spread of one or other of the more virulent diseases.

The work of the Public Health Department continues to increase and in spite of the resignation of two public health inspectors much was achieved in 1968. During the year 89 houses in 4 clearance areas and 2 individual unfit houses were represented for demolition and 3 for closure. This total was lower than the desirable norm but was greater than for the previous year. It is of prime importance that an annual target of at least 150 houses should be represented each year in order that the majority of houses, unfit by present Housing Act standards, can be dealt with within the next 10 years. Houses actually demolished or closed totalled 190 and 708 housing defects were remedied as a result of formal action by the department. It was not possible to complete the comprehensive housing survey commenced in 1967 but much useful information had been accumulated by the end of the year.

Conversion of firegrates in No. 7 Smoke Control Area was completed during the first half of the year and the Order came into operation on the 1st July. No. 8 and 9 Smoke Control Orders were confirmed and work was commenced during the year. Sources of industrial smoke, fumes and noise were kept under observation and close contact maintained with factory management and the Alkali Works Inspector. Enforcement of the provisions of the Food and Drugs Acts and Regulations, through inspection and sampling were carried out continuously throughout the year. During the early part of the year 60 movement licences were issued under the Diseases of Animals Acts and certain preventative measures carried out against possible outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease within the Borough. Activities in connection with the administration of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act are the subject of a separate report but relevant statistics are included in the body of this report.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Health and Housing Committee for their support and encouragement during the year, and also to the officials of the Corporation, in particular Mr. D.M. Griffiths for his assistance at all times.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

F.W. BUNTING,

Medical Officer of Health.

Municipal Building,
Kingsway,
Widnes.

Tel. No. 051-424 2061.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the Borough in acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,178
Population at Census, 1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	52,186
Population estimated, 1968	..	..	..	..	..	..	53,660
Density of Population (i.e. no. of persons per acre)	..	..					8.7
No. of Inhabited Dwellings (1961 Census)	..	..	..	..			15,146
No. of Inhabited Dwellings (end of 1968 according to rate book)							16,618
Rateable Value of Borough	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2,088,872
Sum represented by 1d rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	£8,350

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births

Number - Male 566 Females 509	..	..	..	..	..	1,075
Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	..	..	..	..		18.8
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	..	..				7.9

Stillbirths

Number	..	..	..	..	..	23
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	..	..	..	..		21
Total live and stillbirths	..	..	..	..	..	1,098
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year)	..	..	..	..	..	15

Infant mortality rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..		13.9
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	..					12.1
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births						35.3
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	..	..	..	..	..	10.2
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	..	..	..	..	..	8.4
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	..	..	..	..	..	29.1

Maternal mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	..	..	..	..		Nil

Deaths

Number - Males 317 Females 245	..	..	..	..	..	562
Rate per 1,000 population - Crude	..	..	..	..	..	10.5
Adjusted	..	..	..	..		13.9
Excess of births over deaths	..	..	..	..	..	513
Death rate from influenza per 1,000 of the population	..	..				.04
Death rate from cancer per 1,000 of the population	..	..				1.98
Death rate from respiratory tuberculosis per 1,000 of the population						Nil
Death rate from measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Death rate from whooping cough	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Percentage of total deaths occurring in hospital etc.						52

POPULATION -

The population returns since 1861 are given below:-

Year	Population	Inhabited houses	Average per house
1861	6,893	1,150	5.99
1871	14,359	2,519	5.66
1881	24,918	4,994	5.00
1891	30,011	5,121	5.86
1901	28,580	5,350	5.34
1911	31,544	6,102	5.16
1921	38,879	7,437	5.22
1931	40,619	8,534	4.63
1951	48,785	12,459	3.91
1961	52,186	15,146	3.45
Est. 1968	53,660	16,618	3.23

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for the year 1968 was 53,660. This is a decrease of 940 over the estimated population for 1967.

LIVE BIRTHS -

	Totals	Males	Females	
Legitimate	990	522	468	) Birth rate 18.8
Illegitimate	85	44	41	
Birth-rate for England and Wales	..	..	..	.. .. 16.9

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS -

The percentage of live births which were illegitimate during each of the past fifteen years is as follows:-

1954	.....	3.2 per cent	1961	.....	5.2 per cent
1955	.....	3.3 per cent	1962	.....	4.4 per cent
1956	.....	4.0 per cent	1963	.....	4.4 per cent
1957	.....	4.2 per cent	1964	.....	5.5 per cent
1958	.....	4.1 per cent	1965	.....	5.6 per cent
1959	.....	4.7 per cent	1966	.....	8.0 per cent
1960	.....	3.8 per cent	1967	.....	7.5 per cent
		1968	.....		7.9 per cent

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1968

Causes of Death	Sex	All ages	Under 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 34 years	35 - 44 years	45 - 54 years	55 - 64 years	65 - 74 years	75 years and over
Malignant Neoplasm - stomach	M	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	4	1
	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	3
Lung, bronchus	M	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	8	3	3
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	-
breast	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	4	-
uterus	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-
Leukaemia	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
	F	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Other malignant neoplasms	M	27	-	1	-	-	1	3	1	8	8	5
	F	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	6	2
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Diabetes Mellitus	M	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other endocrine diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Anaemias	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3
Other diseases of nervous system	M	6	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	2	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Chronic Rheumatic heart disease	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1
Hypertensive disease	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	2
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1
Ischaemic heart disease	M	78	-	-	-	-	-	3	8	24	26	17
	F	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2	13	18
Other forms of heart disease	M	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	13
	F	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	25
Cerebrovascular disease	M	21	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	6	5	7
	F	40	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	6	11	18
Other diseases of circulatory system	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	4
	F	13	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	9
Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	M	24	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	6	11
	F	16	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	8
Bronchitis and emphysema	M	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	11	11	13
	F	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	4
Asthma	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
	F	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Peptic Ulcer	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Appendicitis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cirrhosis of liver	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-

Continued overleaf

Causes of Death	Sex	All ages	Under 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 34 years	35 - 44 years	45 - 54 years	55 - 64 years	65 - 74 years	75 years and over
Nephritis and nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	2
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital anomalies	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	M	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other causes of perinatal mortality	M	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	M	5	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other accidents	M	8	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	2	-	1
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other external causes	M	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Totals:	M	317	9	1	3	5	4	14	29	80	86	86
	F	245	6	1	3	3	-	6	25	30	70	101

DEATHS FROM CANCER IN AGE GROUPS OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS AND
RATES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION -

Year	Age Groups					Per 1,000 total population	
	1-14	15-44	45-64	65 & over	All ages	Widnes	England & Wales
1959	2	6	32	42	82	1.60	2.14
1960	2	5	46	51	104	2.01	2.16
1961	2	4	49	43	98	1.86	2.16
1962	-	10	42	48	100	1.88	2.18
1963	3	5	36	49	93	1.73	2.18
1964	2	4	59	51	116	2.16	2.21
1965	1	2	54	51	108	1.99	2.23
1966	2	4	52	47	105	1.93	2.25
1967	1	6	37	56	100	1.83	2.27
1968	1	6	48	51	106	1.98	2.32

DETAILS OF CANCER DEATHS OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS -

Year	Site	Age Groups					Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	Total All Ages	
		1-14	15-44	45-64	65-74	75 +		M	F
1959	Stomach	-	1	8	3	3	0.29	12	3
	Lung, bronchus	-	-	7	7	1	0.29	13	2
	Other sites	2	5	17	9	19	1.02	18	34
1960	Stomach	-	-	6	8	3	0.33	7	10
	Lung, bronchus	-	3	22	8	2	0.68	33	2
	Other sites	2	2	18	21	9	1.00	29	23
1961	Stomach	-	-	9	4	5	0.34	12	6
	Lung, bronchus	-	-	14	6	3	0.44	20	3
	Other sites	2	4	26	13	12	1.08	21	36
1962	Stomach	-	2	6	6	3	0.32	8	9
	Lung, bronchus	-	3	17	10	5	0.66	29	6
	Other sites	-	5	19	14	10	0.90	23	25
1963	Stomach	-	-	5	5	2	0.22	7	5
	Lung, bronchus	-	-	12	7	3	0.41	19	3
	Other sites	2	6	19	16	16	1.10	30	29
1964	Stomach	-	1	12	6	3	0.41	15	7
	Lung, bronchus	-	-	20	10	3	0.61	29	4
	Other sites	2	3	27	16	13	1.14	26	35
1965	Stomach	-	-	6	3	6	0.28	7	8
	Lung, bronchus	-	-	26	5	5	0.66	33	3
	Other sites	1	2	22	16	16	1.05	26	31
1966	Stomach	-	-	7	11	3	0.39	13	8
	Lung, bronchus	-	2	15	4	7	0.51	24	4
	Other sites	2	2	30	11	11	1.03	24	32
1967	Stomach	-	-	2	6	8	0.29	9	7
	Lung, bronchus	-	2	7	9	2	0.37	18	2
	Other sites	1	4	28	14	17	1.17	29	35
1968	Stomach	-	-	8	7	4	0.35	11	8
	Lung, bronchus	-	-	17	6	3	0.48	20	6
	Other sites	1	6	23	23	8	1.14	30	31

DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM -

The following table shows death rates per 1,000 of the population from diseases of the respiratory system which occurred in the Borough, together with corresponding data for England and Wales.

Disease	Widnes	England & Wales
Influenza	0.037	0.104 *
Pneumonia	0.745	0.851 *
Bronchitis	0.969	0.667 *
Other diseases of respiratory system	0.112	0.063 *
Cancer of lung and bronchus	0.485	0.590
Respiratory tuberculosis	Nil	0.030

* estimated figures

DETAILS OF DEATH DUE TO ACCIDENT -

There were eighteen accidental deaths occurring to residents of the Borough during the year. This was slightly higher than the number for 1967 but well below the average for the previous ten years and a much lower rate than the national figure. The rate for accidental deaths has shown a marked reduction over the past 2 years but this is an area in which there is always scope for improvement. As in previous years the largest single causes of death were falls of the elderly and infirm, and road traffic accidents.

(a) CAUSE OF ACCIDENTAL DEATHS IN AGE GOUPS 1968

	Under 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	15 - 44 years	45 - 64 years	65 - 74 years	75 years & over	All years
Road traffic accidents	-	-	1	4	1	1	-	7
Falls on level	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	5
Burns	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Occuring at work	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3
Railway accident	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Drowning	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTALS:	-	-	2	6	5	2	3	18

(b) PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF ACCIDENTAL DEATH OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS

Year	All Causes	Road Traffic	At Work	Falls on Level
1959	18	7	-	4
1960	25	6	3	8
1961	14	6	1	4
1962	26	11	3	6
1963	25	3	3	11
1964	23	11	1	6
1965	25	8	1	5
1966	33	12	1	7
1967	17	8	1	5
1968	18	7	3	5

The following table summarises vital statistics of the Borough

Year	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No.of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	Total		Neo-natal	
									No.of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births		
1968	1,075	20.0	562	10.5	23	21	Nil	Nil	15	14	11	10
1967	1,080	19.8	566	10.4	24	22	Nil	Nil	22	20	14	13
1966	1,189	21.3	582	10.7	20	17	1	0.85	31	27	15	13
1965	1,197	22.1	575	10.6	16	13	2	1.65	24	20	16	13
1964	1,261	23.5	542	10.1	24	19	1	0.78	32	25	21	17
1963	1,152	21.5	580	10.8	21	18	Nil	Nil	43	37	32	28
Avg. 5 years 1963-67	1,176	21.6	569	10.5	21	18	1	0.66	30	26	20	17

Adjusted live birth-rate (comparability factor 0.94) - 18.8

Adjusted death rate (comparability factor 1.32) - 13.9

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS 1923-68

The following table summarises some vital statistics of the Borough over a period of 46 years -

	Per 1,000 of estimated population				Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total (live & still birth)	Rate of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births
	Crude live birth rate	Crude death rate	Death rate from tuberculosis of respiratory system	Death rate from cancer		
Mean of 5 years						
1923-27	22.7	12.0	0.89	0.95	3.16	82
1928-32	20.8	12.1	0.92	1.14	3.77	74
1933-37	19.9	12.0	0.65	1.21	3.31	74
1938-42	22.0	12.9	0.63	1.80	2.06	79
1943-47	23.9	12.0	0.66	1.76	1.45	70
1948-52	21.4	10.8	0.43	1.80	0.38	47
1953-57	20.1	9.5	0.11	2.06	0.99	29
1958-62	22.0	10.1	0.05	1.91	0.32	29
1963-67	21.6	10.5	0.07	1.93	0.66	26
Mean of 45 years	21.6	11.3	0.49	1.62	1.79	57
Year 1968	20.0	10.5	Nil	1.98	Nil	14

VITAL STATISTICS

The following provisional figures based on the Registrar General's Quarterly Returns of birth and death rates, together with case rates for certain infectious diseases for England and Wales are shown together with corresponding data in respect of the Borough of Widnes.

	England & Wales	Borough of Widnes
	Rates per 1,000 population	Rates per 1,000 population
<u>Births:</u>		
Live births	16.9	18.8 (c)
Stillbirths	(0.24 (14.3 (a)	(0.43 (20.9 (a)
<u>Deaths:</u>		
All causes	11.9	13.9 (c)
Tuberculosis (all forms)	0.043	Nil
Respiratory	0.030	Nil
Non-respiratory	0.013	Nil
Cancer (all forms)	2.316	1.98
Lung and bronchus	0.593	0.48
Other cancer	1.722	1.50
Maternal mortality (total)	0.24 (a)	Nil
Maternal causes (excluding abortion)	0.18 (a)	Nil
Due to abortion	0.06 (a)	Nil (a)
Infant mortality	18.3 (b)	13.9 (b)
Neonatal mortality	12.4 (b)	10.2 (b)
Early neonatal mortality	10.6 (b)	8.4 (b)
Perinatal mortality	24.7 (a)	29.1 (a)
<u>Notifications (Corrected):</u>		
Typhoid fever	0.002	0.019
Paratyphoid fever	0.001	Nil
Scarlet fever	0.306	0.261
Whooping cough	0.357	0.522
Diphtheria	0.000	Nil
Erysipelas	0.020	Nil
Smallpox	0.000	Nil
Measles	4.860	6.150
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.000	Nil
Acute Encephalitis	0.003	Nil
Dysentery	0.401	Nil
Food Poisoning	0.122	Nil
Anthrax	0.000	Nil
Meningococcal infection (to 30.9.68)	0.009 *	Nil
Acute Pneumonia (to 30.9.68)	0.147 *	.075 *
Puerperal Pyrexia (to 30.9.68)	0.083 *	Nil
Infective Jaundice (from 15.6.68)	0.442 *	.075 *
Acute meningitis (from 1.10.68)	0.021 *	Nil
Tetanus (from 1.10.68)	0.000 *	Nil
Leptospirosis (from 1.10.68)	0.000 *	Nil
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	0.220	0.205
Meninges and C.N.S.	0.001	Nil
Other	0.044	0.019

(a) Per 1,000 total (live and still) births

(b) Per 1,000 live births

(c) Adjusted rate

* Calculated annual rate

The following statistics are taken from the annual reports of the Medical Officer of Health for the years 1938, 1948 and 1958 and are shown together with comparable data relating to the year under review. Rates are per 1,000 of the population or as given.

	1968	1958	1948	1938
Estimated population	53,660	50,630	47,440	43,700
Crude birth rate	20.0	20.6	22.8	21.7
Illegitimate live births (percentage of total live births)	7.9	4.1	4.5	2.4
Crude death rate	10.5	10.1	9.9	11.5
Excess of births over deaths	513	534	613	444
Infant mortality per 1,000 births	14	36	60	68
Maternal mortality per 1,000 births	Nil	Nil	Nil	2.11
Deaths from - measles	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.07
diphtheria	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.14
whooping cough	Nil	Nil	.06	Nil
scarlet fever	Nil	Nil	Nil	.02
respiratory tuberculosis	Nil	0.08	0.46	0.64
tuberculosis (other forms)	Nil	0.02	0.08	0.09
cancer	1.98	2.19	1.66	1.46
diseases of circulatory system (excluding cerebrovascular disease)	3.89	3.12	2.99	2.84
diseases of respiratory system	1.88	1.48	1.10	1.88
vascular lesions of nervous system	1.29	1.36	0.59	0.62
road traffic accidents	0.13	0.08	0.12	0.43
all other accidents	0.20	0.36	0.12	
Deaths under 65 years of age - percentage of total	39	45	52	63

INFANT MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate for 1968 of 13.9 per 1,000 live births was considerably lower than for any yet recorded for Widnes. The previous lowest rates being 20.4 in 1967 and 20.1 in 1965. The stillbirth rate of 20.9 per 1,000 total births was also lower than that for 1967. Although the trend in infant deaths continues to be downward, the pattern does from time to time, when dealing with comparatively small numbers, become abnormal. This is the second time on record that this rate has fallen substantially below that for England and Wales. Even if the very low rate for 1968 is not maintained it is a gratifying result and one which will no doubt be further improved in the not too distant future.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	5	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	-	4
Congenital malformations	1	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	3
Other causes	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Total	9	-	1	1	11	2	2	-	-	15

INFANT MORTALITY
Deaths per 1,000 Live Births



LIVE BIRTHS, STILLBIRTHS & INFANT DEATHS 1957-68

Year	Live Births		Stillbirths		Neo-natal		Infant Deaths		Perinatal		Stillbirths + Infant Deaths	
	Number	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births
1957	1,153	22.9	29	25	23	20	32	28	52	44	61	51
1958	1,045	20.6	26	24	27	26	38	36	53	49	64	60
1959	1,108	21.6	27	24	18	16	26	23	45	37	53	47
1960	1,156	22.3	35	29	19	16	34	29	52	44	69	58
1961	1,121	21.3	31	27	21	19	31	28	48	42	62	54
1962	1,298	23.1	35	26	29	22	37	28	60	45	72	54
1963	1,152	20.2	21	18	32	28	43	37	47	40	64	55
1964	1,261	22.1	24	19	21	17	32	25	42	33	56	44
1965	1,197	20.7	16	13	16	13	24	20	30	25	40	33
1966	1,159	20.0	20	17	15	13	31	27	31	26	51	43
1967	1,080	18.6	24	22	14	13	22	20	38	34	46	42
1968	1,075	18.8	23	21	11	10	15	14	32	29	38	35

LABORATORY FACILITIES -

Specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination during 1968 as follows:-

<u>Origin</u>	<u>Specimen</u>	<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Routine examination of Water	faeces	-	67
Department personnel	urine	-	62
Suspected dysentery cases and contacts	faeces	-	1
Typhoid fever contacts	faeces	-	42
	urine	-	5
Suspected food poisoning	faeces	9 (S. Virchow)	35
Examination prior to admission to Home	faeces	-	2
Food handlers	faeces	-	17

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE -
(i) Notifiable Diseases during the Year

	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to hospital	Total deaths
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	14	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice	2	1	-
Acute Pneumonia	3	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	1	1	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-
Measles	330	4	-
Whooping Cough	28	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Acute Polioencephalitis	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	5	-	-
Tuberculosis -			
(a) Pulmonary (M	6	1	-
(F	5	1	-
(Total	11	2	-
(b) Non (M	1	-	-
Pulmonary (F	-	-	-
(Total	1	-	-

(ii) Analysis of Notifiable Diseases in Age Groups

C A S E S N O T I F I E D											
Notifiable Diseases	Total cases at all ages	Under 1 year	1 - 2 years	3 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 44 years	45 - 64 years	65 years and over	Age unknown
Scarlet Fever	14	-	1	4	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	330	21	103	113	92	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ..	28	4	8	11	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia* ..	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice** ..	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	5	1	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis											
M	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	-	-
F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	-
Non-Resp. Tuberculosis											
M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	395	26	112	128	108	2	2	10	5	1	1

* notified to 30th September, 1968.
** " from 1st June, 1968.

SCARLET FEVER -

Fourteen cases were notified during the year. The number of cases notified during the preceeding five years were:-

1963 - 49; 1964 - 40; 1965 - 46; 1966 - 20; 1967 - 19.

TYPHOID & PARATYPHOID FEVER -

The case of typhoid fever recorded in the above table did not originate in this country, nor was it known to be connected with any other notified case.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS -

For the sixth year in succession there were no cases of poliomyelitis notified in the Borough. The following table shows details of the incidence of the disease during the previous fourteen years.

Year	No. of cases	No. of deaths	Year	No. of cases	No. of deaths
1954	4	1	1961	2	-
1955	4	-	1962	1	-
1956	8	-	1963	-	-
1957	-	-	1964	-	-
1958	3	-	1965	-	-
1959	7	-	1966	-	-
1960	-	-	1967	-	-

FOOD POISONING -

The five notified cases of food poisoning were members of one family who became ill after partaking of a picnic meal. Although it was not possible to positively identify the food causing the outbreak it was most probably a chicken which was consumed during the meal. The agent of infection was identified as salmonella virchow.

TUBERCULOSIS -

The incidence of tuberculosis in the Borough remained low during the year. There were twelve cases notified compared with ten the previous year. All the cases notified in 1968 were amongst adults. For the first time on record there were no deaths from the disease.

Fifteen cases of respiratory and three cases of other forms of tuberculosis were reported as having recovered from the disease during 1968. After the addition of new cases, the subtraction of cases reported as having recovered from the disease and adjustments in respect of removals in and out of the Borough the numbers remaining on the register at the end of the year were as follows:-

	Males	Females
Respiratory tuberculosis	144	127
Tuberculosis (other forms)	5	11

Details of cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease during 1968 will be found in the following table:-

Table 1 Age Periods (Years)	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 Year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 upwards	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	6	5	1	-	-	-	-	-
	11		1		-		-	

Table 2 shows the incidence of tuberculosis in the Borough during the past thirty years.

Table 2 Annual Average	Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	
	Case rate per 1,000 popula- tion	Death rate per 1,000 popula- tion	Case rate per 1,000 popula- tion	Death rate per 1,000 popula- tion
1938 - 1942	.82	.63	.52	.12
1943 - 1947	1.03	.66	.46	.09
1948 - 1952	1.16	.44	.30	.06
1953 - 1957	.85	.11	.12	.02
1958 - 1962	.40	.05	.07	.00
1963 - 1967	.20	.07	.01	.01
1968	.20	Nil	.02	Nil

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR ON ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS IN THE BOROUGH

A record of the work of the Public Health Department is as follows:-

No. of premises visited	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,674
No. of visits made	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,329
Defects or nuisances:							
	No. discovered	..	..	..			1,121
	No. abated	..	..	..			1,102
No. of notices served:	Informal	..	..	..	..		381
	Statutory	..	..	..	..		241
No. of legal proceedings taken		..	..	..	..	..	8

Premises kept under observation	No. of Premises
Factories	179
Offices	106
Food Premises	
General Grocers	118
Greengrocers (including those selling wet fish)	20
Fishmongers	3
Meat Shops	39
Bakers and Confectioners.. .. .	14
Fried Fish Shops	24
Sweet Shops	45
Licensed Premises, Cafes and Canteens	166
Wholesale	2
Manufacturing (other than retail)	3
Common Lodging Houses	2
Agricultural Premises	22
Shops (other than food)	359
Schools - Primary	26
Secondary	8
Further Education	1
Nursery	3
Special	2
Places of entertainment and recreation	64
Premises visited for investigation of infectious disease	16
Premises disinfected after infectious disease	4
Premises disinfested	160

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL -

There are at present no sewage disposal works in the Borough and there is an area of land not at present served by a main drainage system. Work on a main drainage scheme covering the whole of the Borough and including the construction of treatment works is however in progress.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION -

At the end of the year there were 2 houses with closets attached to privy middens and four with chemical closets. The remaining houses in the Borough are provided with fresh water closets.

REFUSE REMOVAL -

This work is carried out by the Highways Department.

DISINFESTATION -

One hundred and twenty-nine dwellinghouses and 31 other premises were treated because of verminous infestation. In addition houses in clearance areas were inspected and where necessary disinfested prior to the tenants' removal to Corporation houses.

HOUSING ACTS, 1936-1957 -

The table set out below shows details of property represented for demolition or closure during 1968.

PROPERTY	Number of houses dealt with		
	Individual houses		Clearance Areas
	Closure	Demolition	
2-18 Alpha Street	-	-	9
2-18 South Street) 1-17 Alpha Street)	-	-	18
4-18 Thorp Street) 5-19 " ")	-	-	16
61 & 63 Heath Road	-	2	-
62 Ann Street	1	-	-
2-54a Dickson Street) 1-35 Kent Street)	-	-	46
52 Back William Street	1	-	-
54 William Street	1	-	-
TOTAL:	3	2	89

Four clearance areas involving 89 houses, and 2 individually unfit houses were represented for demolition and one for closure during 1968. During the period 176 houses were demolished and 14 closed (13 informally) and 326 people (106 families) displaced.

New house construction by the Local Authority during 1968 was 263 houses and 54 flats.

The following table shows the number of unfit houses dealt with during the past 13 years. Forty-eight of the houses shown as closed have since been demolished or included in current clearance areas.

Year	No. of houses represented	No. of houses closed	No. of houses demolished	No. of families displaced
1956	49	1	8	13
1957	123	7	52	51
1958	138	11	78	126
1959	29	8	143	82
1960	303	9	34	43
1961	47	14	59	98
1962	34	3	110	158
1963	139	2	77	88
1964	147	4	194	95
1965	187	2	127	165
1966	127	5	153	121
1967	15	7	115	123
1968	92	14	176	106

HOUSING AND SLUM CLEARANCE -

The clearance of unfit houses still remains a major task of the Public Health Department, and considered in the light of social need and urban renewal this task is an urgent one.

The town still has a legacy of over one thousand substandard dwellings most of which were built between the years 1860 to 1880.

These areas of worn out properties consist of streets of congested terraced houses, which are damp, in a state of disrepair, lacking suitable sanitary accommodation and satisfactory facilities for the preparation and storage of food.

The task of maintaining even basic standards of hygiene is made difficult by the absence of hot running water, bathrooms and internal water-closets. In a hundred years the fabric of these houses has decayed to the extent that they no longer have a place in a modern society.

In addition to those houses classified as unfit for occupation there are a further one thousand three hundred dwellings most of which lack basic amenities, such as a bathroom and internal watercloset.

If the problem of unfit housing is to be resolved during the next ten years a minimum of 150 new dwellings a year must be provided in order to rehouse the displaced families from these areas.

Housing Survey -

The housing survey commenced in 1967 continued during 1968, but some delay was caused by temporary staff shortages during part of the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES -

There are 2 common lodging houses in the Borough. They are old but are adequately supervised and in fair condition. Regular inspections are made of these premises.

RENT ACT, 1957 -

Very little use was made during 1968 of the provisions of the First Schedule of the Act. The following table shows details of applications and certificates issued since 1957.

	June, 1957 to Dec. 1968	1968
Applications for Certificates of Disrepair received	500	1
Applications for Certificates of Disrepair accepted	491	1
Undertakings accpeted (on Form K)	289	-
Certificates of Disrepair issued	119	-
Certificates of Disrepair cancelled upon application	44	-
Applications for Certificates as to the Remedying of Defects (on Form O): by Tenants	5	-
by Landlords	4	-
Certificates granted: to Tenants	4	-
to Landlords	4	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963 -

A separate report on the administration of this Act during 1968 has been published and the following is a summary of that report:-

Registrations and General Inspections -

Class of Premises	No.of premises newly registered during year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	3	106	18
Retail shops	19	308	144
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	5	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	71	6
Fuel storage depots	-	4	-
Totals	22	494	169

Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises - 230

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace -

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	1,271
Retail shops	1,221
Wholesale departments, warehouses	65
Catering establishments open to public	390
Canteens	23
Fuel storage depots	26
Total	2,996
Total males	888
Total females	2,108

Registration -

Compliance with Section 49 of the Act and the Notification of Employment of Persons Order, 1964 has generally been satisfactory during the year.

Inspections -

Inspections and visits to premises have been maintained at a satisfactory level throughout the year, and no difficulty has been experienced in carrying out thorough and detailed inspections.

Analysis of Contraventions -

<u>Section</u>	<u>Number of Contraventions Found:</u>
4 Cleanliness	29
6 Temperature	18
7 Ventilation	13
8 Lighting	19
9 Sanitary Conveniences	17
10 Washing Facilities	17
12 Clothing Accommodation	3
16 Floors, passages, stairs	18
17 Machinery not fenced or guarded	1
24 First Aid	27
56 Information to Employees	32
	<hr/>
	194
	<hr/>

Accidents -

During the year 13 accidents were reported. This was less than half the number for 1967. Each accident was investigated and discussed with the employer concerned, and where it was considered necessary recommendations were made.

SWIMMING BATHS -

There is one Corporation owned public swimming bath in the Borough. It is of modern design, completed in 1961, with a capacity of 220 bathers an hour. The water is deep well from the Widnes Corporations mains and is treated with chlorine, soda and alum. There is continous filtration with a turnover period of three hours.

During 1963 a fixed type indoor swimming pool (capacity 25,000 gallons) was installed at Oakfield Primary School. It is used by that school and five others, averaging between 250 and 300 pupils per day. The water is deep well from Widnes Corporation mains and sterilisation is by automatic addition of liquid hypochlorite with sodium carbonate added by hand when necessary. There is continous filtration with a turnover period of five hours.

A portable type indoor swimming pool at West Bank Primary School is used by the children at that school. The water is from Widnes Corporation mains and sterilisation is by means of the addition of sodium hypochlorite. There is continous filtration with a trunover period of eight hours.

Samples are taken from the water of these pools at regular intervals and submitted for bacteriological examination. One hundred and five samples of bath water were taken during the year, mainly with satisfactory results. On 2 occasions when the results of samples from school baths were regarded as unsatisfactory investigations were carried out and advice given.

WATER SUPPLY -

The water supply of the area has been satisfactory both in quantity and quality. The water is not liable to plumbo-solvent action and no form of contamination was discovered. The fluoride content of the water is nil. The results of bacteriological examination and chemical analysis of samples of the water taken during the year are shown in the following table.

	Bacteriological examinations			Chemical analysis		
	No. taken	No. satisfactory	No. unsatisfactory	No. taken	No. satisfactory	No. unsatisfactory
Of raw water	-	-	-	-	-	-
Of water going into supply where treatment is installed	646	646	-	17	17	-

All the dwellings in the Borough numbering 16,618, and an estimated population of 53,660 were supplied direct from public water mains.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960 -

During the year a number of complaints arose regarding noise from industrial sources. In one case widespread nuisance was caused by a high velocity fan with a faulty silencer. On another occasion considerable noise was caused by the temporary use of a compressor to replace a faulty electrical fan on an industrial process. In both cases it was possible to secure abatement of these nuisances without formal action.

Concrete Road Breakers -

The existing procedure for dealing with nuisance arising from the use of "unmuffled" road breakers is ineffective. There is a clear case for inclusion in future legislation of a clause making it an offence to use road breakers in a built up area without effective means of noise reduction, i.e. muffles.

CONTROL OF AIR POLLUTION

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956 -

Domestic Smoke Control

Two more Orders; No. 8 and No. 9 Smoke Control Orders were confirmed during the year. This brings the total numbers of dwellings included in confirmed Orders to 9,445, or 57.3% of the dwellings in the Borough.

Domestic smoke control has done more than any other single factor to improve the environment in the Borough, and the quality of living of its residents.

Despite the good progress so far maintained, it will be necessary to continue at the same rate for at least seven years before the programme is completed.

As in previous years compliance with Smoke Control Orders was generally very good. It was necessary, however, to take proceedings in two cases where persistent offenders were concerned.

Industrial Smoke Control

Smoke pollution from industrial sources was again very much reduced during the year, but the position with regard to grit and dust emission has been less satisfactory.

Grit emissions have taken place on several occasions from a small private power station. The burning of industrial waste material on open land has, as in previous years, caused serious air pollution on many occasions. It is a matter of considerable regret that the provisions in the Clean Air Act, 1968, for dealing with this type of offence, were not included in the Commencement Order. Air pollution arising from this source is gross and often objectionable.

A major industrial source of smoke and fume pollution remaining in the Borough is a copper refining works. The emission of large volumes of low level fumes from the reverberatory furnaces, coupled with frequent emissions of dense smoke from the stacks continue to give cause for concern.

Proceedings were taken against the British Railway Board in two cases, one relating to dark smoke and the other to black smoke emitted by railway engines.

Both cases were found proved and in each case the Board was fined £5 with £6 6s. 0d. advocates fee.

Alkali Works; etc. -

The position with regard to odour and fumes from chemical processes has continued to give rise to concern during the year. Leakages and breakdown of plant have caused complaints from time to time. In most cases these have arisen from Scheduled Alkali processes, and I have been grateful for the prompt attention given to these incidents by the District Alkali Works Inspector. As in previous years I would like to record my sincere appreciation of the help and advice received from the Alkali Works Inspector.

There are 64 major factories in the Borough, and the nature of their industries is tabulated below:-

Chemicals	15
Timber Importers and Sawmills	3
Engineering	5
Kitchen Furniture	2
Scientific Equipment	3
Asbestos Products	2
Joinery	2
Concrete	2
Cement	1
Metals	2
Soap	1
Wearing Apparel	2
Printing	3
Foodstuffs, etc.	6
Insulating Materials	1
Steel Drums	1
Oil Refining	1
Foundries and Smelting Works	3
Fertilisers	1
Animal Feeding Stuffs	1
Oxygen	1
Wire	1
Pressed Felts	1
Electro Plating	1
Paper Bags	1
Welded Fabrications	1
Basic Slag Crushing	1

RECORDINGS -

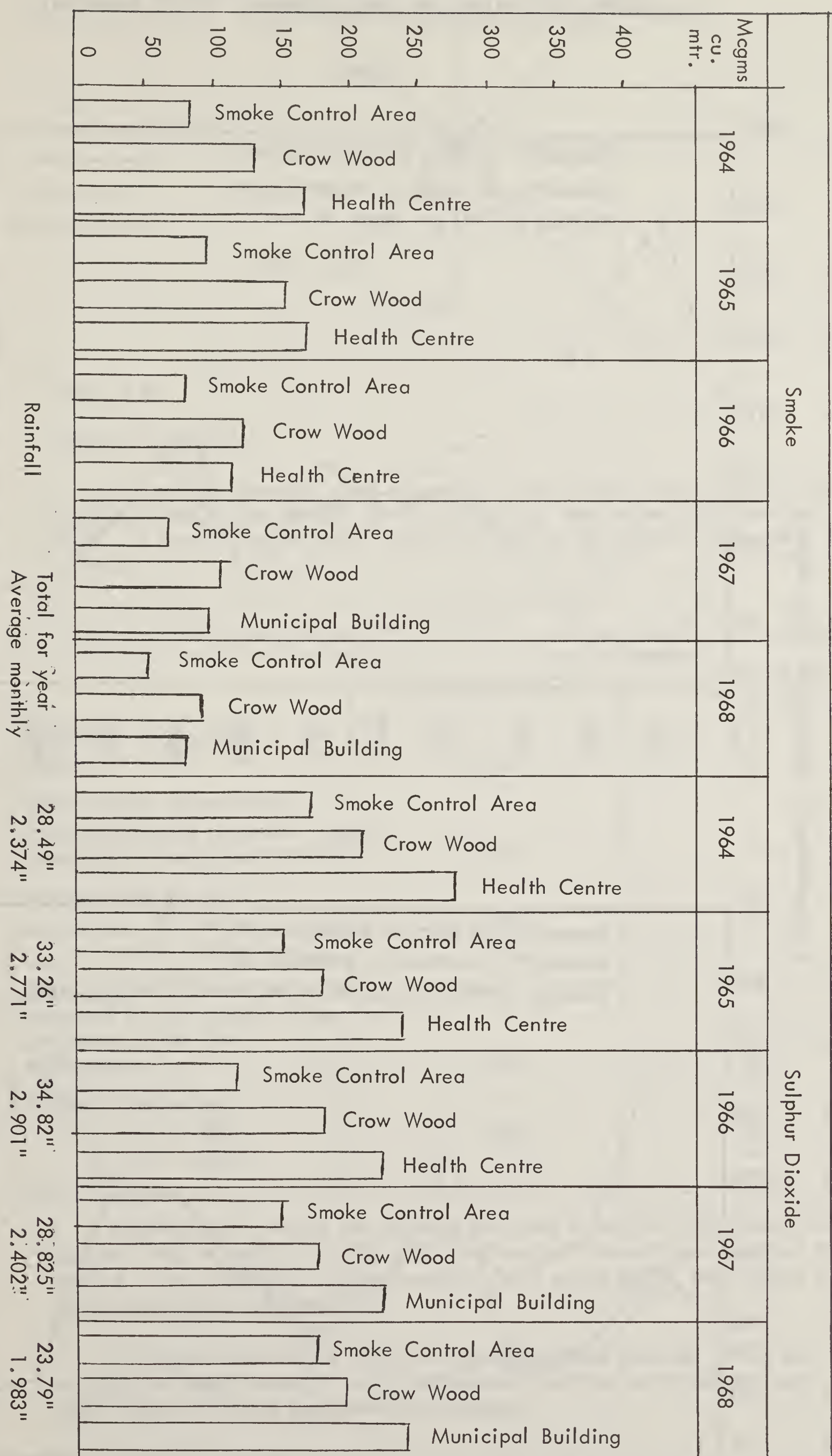
Assessment of the smoke stains was carried out with a photo-electric reflectometer. Throughout the year daily meteorological records were kept.

The recorded daily average smoke concentration for each instrument continues to show a steady decrease. This may be attributed to the effectiveness of the domestic smoke control policy, and the continued improvement in industrial methods of fuel utilisation.

Throughout the year three volumetric instruments for recording smoke and sulphur dioxide were in use.

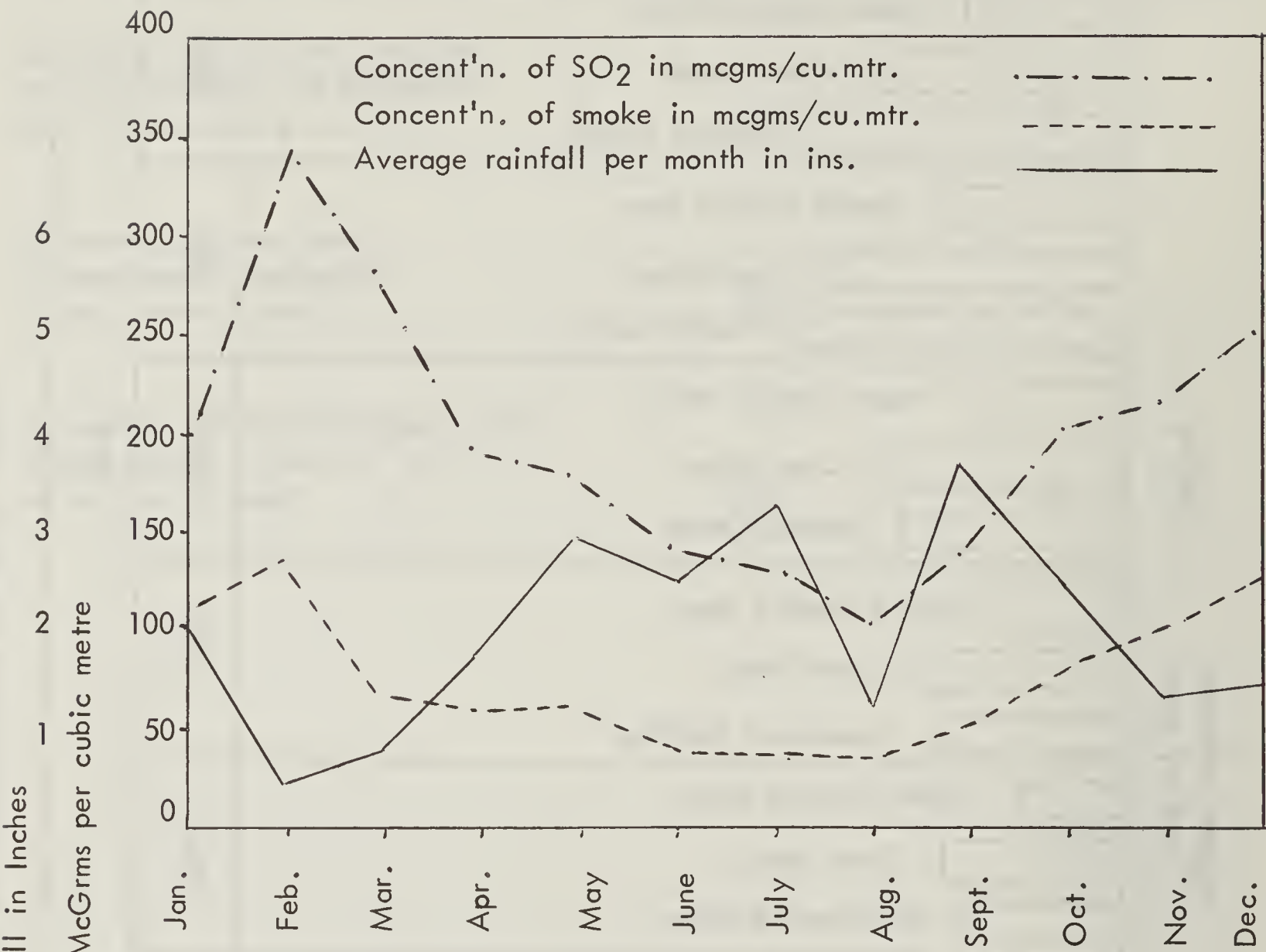
	Daily average SO ₂ concentration mcGms./cu. metre	Daily average smoke concentration mcGms./cu. metre
Instrument 1 Municipal Building (Mixed industrial and residential area without smoke control)	244	82
Instrument 2 Crow Wood (Predominantly residential without smoke control)	192	91
Instrument 3 Oakfield Primary School (Predominantly residential but smoke control area)	176	58

DAILY AVERAGE RECORDINGS OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE

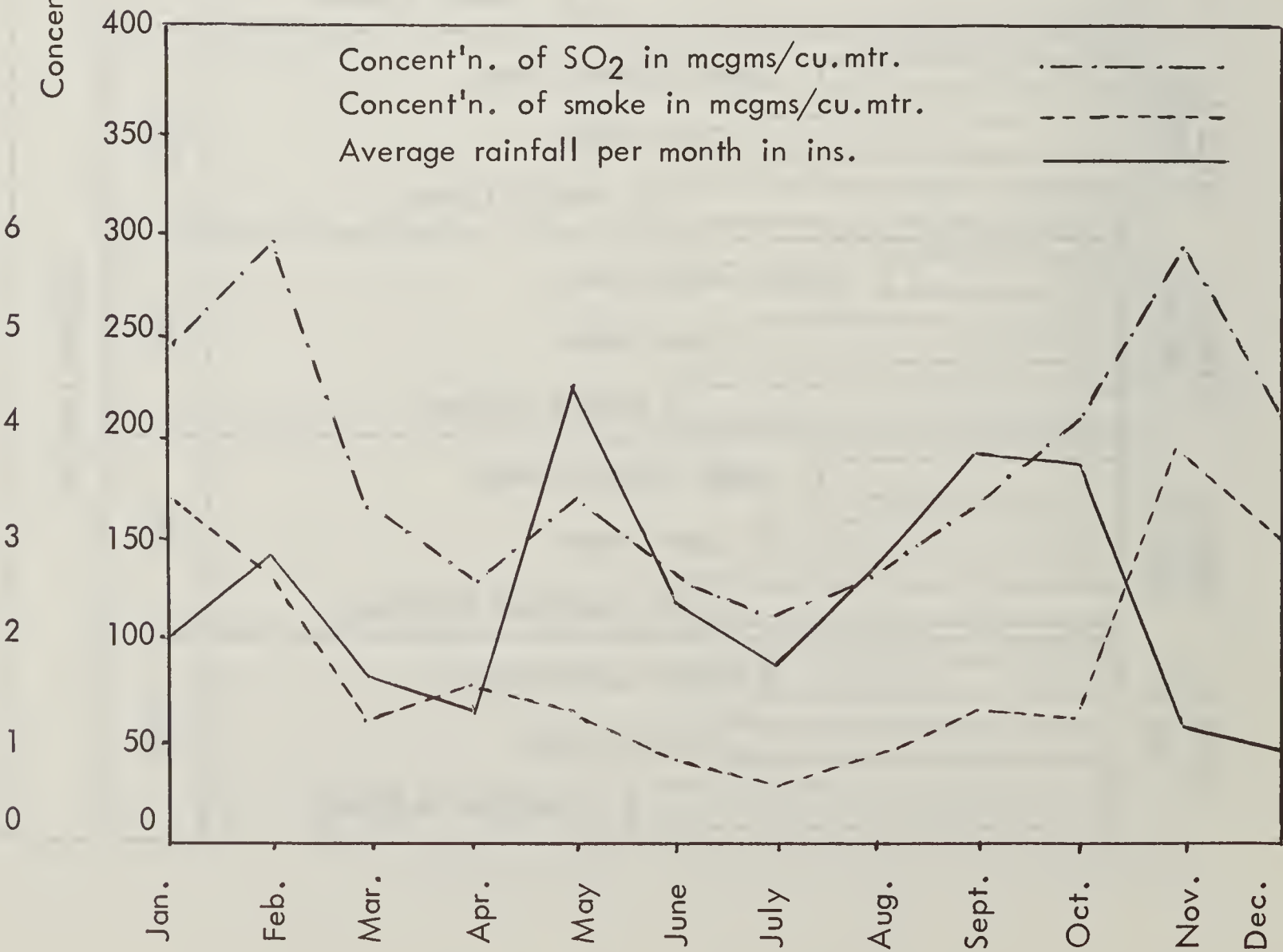


GRAPH SHOWING MONTHLY AVERAGES FROM
VOLUMETRIC INSTRUMENTS AND MONTHLY TOTAL RAINFALL

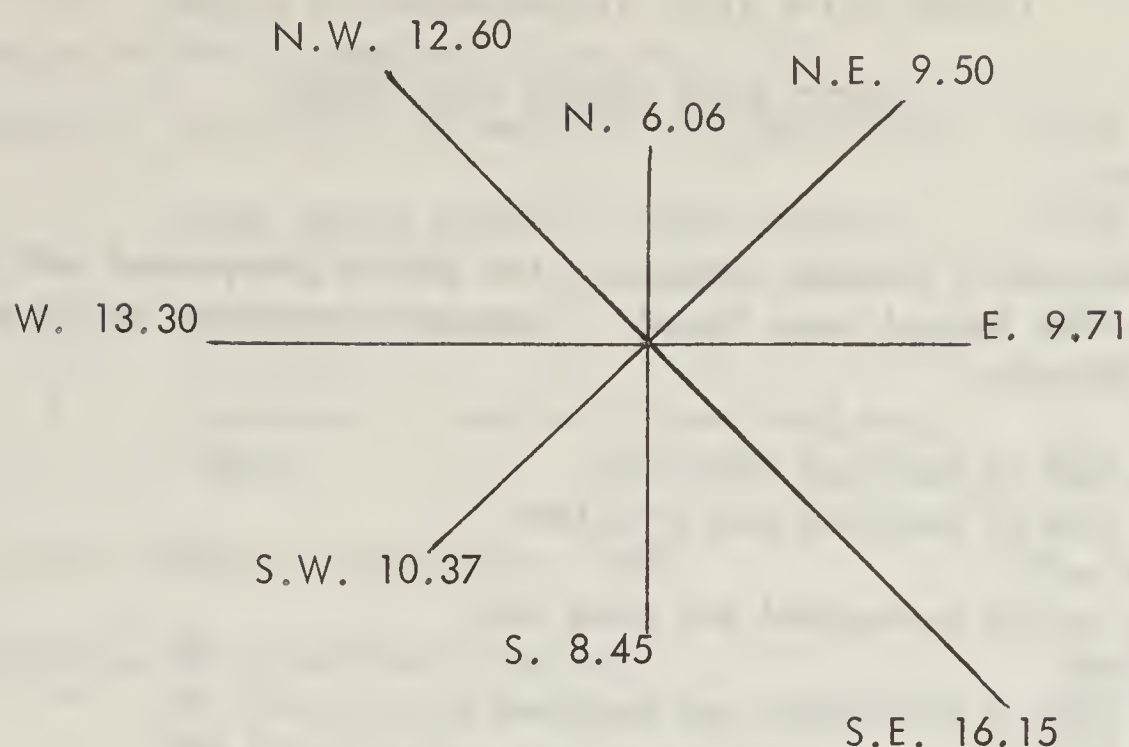
1968



1967



PERCENTAGE WIND DIRECTION 1968



Calm 13.86

RODENT CONTROL -

Two rodent operators were employed by the Local Authority and carried out their work to the formula of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. A summary of the work carried out during the period is appended

	Type of Property	
	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in district	18,839	22
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	2,124	9
Number infested by:-		
(i) Rats	450	9
(ii) Mice	131	-
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notifications	601	16
Number infested by:-		
(i) Rats	144	10
(ii) Mice	-	-

Rodent control within the Borough has been effectively maintained during the year and in addition to the above treatments 92 areas were surveyed and treated where necessary. Sewer treatment with acute poison was carried out intensively during the year.

A large number of the factories and agricultural premises within the Borough are under contract to the Corporation and the remainder are kept under observation and treated where necessary.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

MILK SUPPLY -

During the year 6 licences authorising the sale of pre-packed milk from premises within the Borough were issued. Licences in existence at the end of 1968 were as follows:-

For the sale of sterilised milk only	49
For the sale of sterilised and ultra heat treated milk	3
For the sale of pasteurised and ultra heat treat milk	4
For the sale of pasteurised and sterilised milk	64
For the sale of pasteurised, sterilised and ultra heat treated milk	5
For the sale of ultra heat treated milk only	5

One hundred and fifty seven samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination under the methylene blue and phosphatase tests; 3 samples of sterilised milk for the turbidity test and 1 sample of ultra heat treated milk for the colony count test. These were all, with the exception of 1 sample of pasteurised milk, which was declared void under the methylene blue test, declared to be satisfactory. Seven samples of milk were submitted for chemical analysis and declared to be unadulterated.

ICE CREAM -

One hundred and fifteen premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. During the year regular inspections of shops and vehicles were made.

OTHER FOODS -

Twenty nine samples of miscellaneous foodstuffs were taken for analysis and were all declared to be genuine and free from adulteration.

Two hundred and seventy seven samples of gelatine, 2 samples of cooked pork pie, 2 samples of uncooked pork pie and 2 samples of cream were submitted for bacteriological examination and found to be satisfactory.

INSPECTIONS -

Eight hundred and twenty inspections of premises where food is prepared, stored or sold and thirty three inspections of street trading and food delivery vehicles were made by public health inspectors during the year. Thirty one formal notices were served and 127 verbal warnings were given in respect of contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960. Details of inspections carried out are as follows:-

Retail Premises	477	Bakehouses	20
Wholesale Premises	12	Hotels and Clubs	28
Cafes and Restaurants	81	Market Stalls	86
Canteens	63	Street Trading and Delivery	
Food Manufacturing Premises	53	Vehicles	33

PROSECUTIONS -

Adulteration of Food - Food and Drugs Act, 1955

1:	Section 2	Nail in tin of beef and vegetable curry	£10 fine	£6 6s 0d	advocates fee
2:	"	Steel sewing needle in cream biscuit	£20 fine	£7 7s 0d	advocates fee
3:	"	Mouldy fruit tart	£40 fine	£8 8s 0d	advocates fee
4:	"	Cockroach in portion of sweet and sour pork	£20 fine))
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960				)	) Advocates
1:	Regulation 20	Insufficient lighting	£5 fine	)	fee
	" 23	Dirty walls, etc.	£10 fine	)	£5 5s 0d
	" 23	Floor not in good condition	£10 fine)	
	" 23	Failure to prevent risk of infestation	£10 fine)	

The following cases of alleged adulteration of food were investigated by public health inspectors but legal action was impracticable or considered to be unnecessary or inadvisable.

- 1: Milk bottle with a black oil like substance adhering to inside
- 2: Portion of shepherds pie containing a small piece of wood
- 3: Tube of Pati de Foie containing a beetle
- 4: Sausage meat containing drawing pins
- 5: Strawberry jam containing mould

MILK SUPPLIES - BRUCELLA ABORTUS -

There was no raw milk sold in the Borough during the year

THE LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963 -

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the Borough

POULTRY INSPECTION -

There are no poultry processing premises within the Borough

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES -

Six premises were registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act for the storage and sale of ice cream and 1 for the manufacture of preserved meats, sausages, etc. Registration of 4 hawkers of food under the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, and 1 storage premises was also effected during the year.

FOOD HYGIENE

Education -

The Department's activities in connection with the education and training of food handlers was continued during the year.

All aspects of food handling were dealt with but particular emphasis was laid on the need for sterilising equipment and working surfaces. By far the majority of those engaged in the food trade were found to be using simple detergents as cleansing agents. The limited value of ordinary detergents was demonstrated by the use of Oxoid swabs and culture media. The proprietors of food premises were recommended to use suitable detergent/sterilisers as part of their cleansing routine. With one exception these recommendations were adopted.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 -

Routine inspections to enforce the Regulations were carried out during the year and a number of contraventions were discovered. The majority of contraventions take place in kitchens, preparation rooms and stockrooms at the rear of shops and restaurants where the general public do not generally have access, and these parts of food premises rarely match up to the hygienic conditions apparent to customers.

Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966 -

These Regulations came into operation on the 1st January, 1967, and applied hygiene requirements to markets, mobile food traders, hawkers, food and bread delivery vehicles, etc.

During the year several warnings were given to the owners and drivers of bread delivery vans regarding cleanliness of vans and personal cleanliness but no legal proceedings were taken.

The Borough Council has provided fixed sinks and hot water supply to all food stalls in the St. John's Market and portable hand-washing units with integral hot water heaters were provided for the stalls in the "open" market where it was not practicable to provide permanent fittings.

The following table gives details of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, grouped in categories of trade.

Category of trade	No. of premises	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Manufacturing premises (including bakehouses)	10	10	10	10
Canteens/Restaurants	89	89	89	89
Butchers	40	40	40	40
Greengrocers & fish	23	22	23	22
General/Grocers	119	119	119	118
Sweets, ice-cream	45	45	45	44
Fish & chips	24	24	24	24
Confectioners	10	10	10	10
Warehouses	1	1	-	-
Licensed premises (including clubs)	77	45	74	62
Totals:	438	405	434	419

FOOD SAMPLING -

The following tables show details of (a) samples taken for bacteriological examination and (b) samples submitted for chemical analysis, and the results obtained. Four of the samples in table (b) were taken as part of a joint survey of pesticide residues in foodstuffs sold in England and Wales.

(a) for bacteriological examination:

Sample of	No. of samples	Satisfactory	Unsatis- factory	Void Samples
Gelatine	277	277	-	-
Heat Treated Milk				
(a) Methylene Blue Test	157	156	-	1
(b) Phosphatase Test	157	157	-	-
(c) Turbidity Test	3	3	-	-
(d) Colony Count	1	1	-	-
Pork Pie (cooked)	2	2	-	-
" " (uncooked)	2	2	-	-
Cream	2	2	-	-

(b) for chemical analysis

Sample of	No. of samples	Genuine	Not genuine
Milk	9	9	-
Conference Pears	1	1	-
Soft Cheshire Cheese	1	1	-
Pork	1	1	-
Salad Dressing	1	1	-
Veal & Rice Junior Baby Food	1	-	1
Pork Sausage	2	2	-
Meat Pies	3	3	-
Meat & Potato Pie	1	1	-
Cornish Pasty	1	1	-
Soft Cream Cheese	1	1	-
Lemon Cheese	1	1	-
Tea	1	1	-
White Pepper	1	1	-
Instant Coffee	1	1	-
Blackcurrant Health Drink	1	1	-
Milk (containing foreign matter)	1	-	1
Lard	2	2	-
Curry Paste	1	1	-
Chunky Steak with Gravy	1	1	-
Pork Luncheon Meat	1	1	-
Shredded Beef Suet	1	1	-
Cough Syrup	1	1	-

UNSOUND FOOD -

The following unwholesome foodstuffs were condemned during the year.
This list includes food condemned as a result of refrigerator breakdown.

Food	lbs.	ozs.	Fl. ozs.	Packets
Evaporated milk	-	-	7	-
Tinned fruit	148	6	-	-
Pre-packed vegetables	567	14	-	-
" tomatoes	9	9	-	-
Milk pudding	18	14	-	-
Soups	11	9	-	-
Beef	454	-	-	-
Corned beef	50	4	-	-
Luncheon meat	22	8	-	-
Ham	301	12	-	-
Tongue	15	8	-	-
Meat products	530	5	-	-
Fish	770	15	-	-
Fish cakes	11	-	-	-
Pork	170	8	-	-
Fish and chips	104	4	-	-
Pastry	79	4	-	-
Cakes, etc.	1	14	-	62
Meat pies	4	-	-	40
Kidney	8	-	-	-
Lamb	2	-	-	-
Canned soft drink	-	-	262	-
Chicken	22	7	-	-
Mousse	20	-	-	-
Milk	-	-	7	-
Fresh Fruit	3	8	-	-
Jam	19	-	-	-
Baby food	-	-	-	12
Mixed pickles	3	2	-	-
Baked beans	2	8	-	-
Veal	20	-	-	-
Jelly	26	14	-	-
Turkey	17	-	-	-
Butter	23	8	-	-
Other products	13	13	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1: INSPECTIONS -

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	5	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	163	27	8	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	11	7	-	-
Total	179	39	8	-

2: CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND -

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H. M. Inspector	By H. M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	7	-	4	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8	8	-	5	-

3: OUTWORK -

Notifications were received of six outworkers employed during the year in the Borough in the making and altering of wearing apparel.

